

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KUALA 05789 300712Z

16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 COME-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /042 W

----- 045338

R 300651Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1379

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 5789

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJ: CALL OF ROBERT SARNOFF ON THE KING

1. MR. RICHARD J. HALL, LOCAL RCA MANAGER, HAS INFORMED US THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED BY HIS NEW YORK OFFICE TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT FOR MR. SARNOFF TO CALL ON THE YANG DI- PERTUAN AGONG. THE GRAND CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE HAD INFORMED HIM THAT THE CALLS OF ALL FOREIGNERS ON THE KING HAD TO BE REQUESTED FORMALLY BY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE COUNTRY CONCERNED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2. AN INFORMAL APPROACH TO THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL CONFIRMS THAT MFA IS THE PROPER CHANNEL, BUT THIS OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE PALACE IS NORMALLY NOT RECEPTIVE TO REQUESTS FOR AUDIENCE FOR PRIVATE PERSONS, AND WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN MR. SARNOFF'S CASE.

3. THE KING HERE IS A PURELY CEREMONIAL FIGURE AND EVEN SENIOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE RARELY TAKEN TO CALL ON HIM. WE KNOW OF NO INSTANCE WHERE A PRIVATE FOREIGN BUSINESSMAN HAS DONE SO.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF DEPARTMENT COULD INFORM MR. SARNOFF'S OFFICE THAT CALLS ON THE KING ARE NOT CUSTOMARY HERE. UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

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